The Halyard

A weekly newsletter for Virginia's Library Media Specialists

March 18-25, 2005

Charlie's chatter

Spring regionals are so energizing! The regional directors and their committees do an outstanding job of providing high quality sessions and opportunities to see old friends and make new ones. I hope to see many of you at the regionals upcoming in April.

I did see quite a few librarians when I sailed into Norfolk for the VSTE conference. The librarians in both Fauquier and Albemarle also were very gracious when I meet with them recently to talk about how to use the Linking Libraries materials.

Yesterday, I participated in the Gale database training sessions held in Franklin County. George Washington, Director of Technology and his staff are outstanding and their hard work and dedication to making the day a success is greatly appreciated. I hope that each of you will consider attending a workshop in your area. (More details later in this newsletter)

The sailing vocabulary word for this week is 'bowline'. A bowline is the prime knot used to create a fixed size loop in a line. It is frequently used to tie lines of different diameters together. Its major benefit is that the loop will not slip and unties easily.

Our library programs should provide a bowline for students and teachers. We should be flexible in creating ways to bring together the diverse needs of teachers and students (line of different diameters) but yet create a stable environment of quality resources and services (a fixed size loop).

Just for fFun
http://www.peepresearch.org/index.html

Standards of Quality and Standards of Accreditation
The standards may be found at:
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/PC/policy.shtml

We cannot control the wind but we can adjust the sails.

These standards were adopted in July 2004

Staffing for LMS

Librarians in elementary schools, one part-time to 299 students, one full-time at 300 students; librarians in middle schools, one- half time to 299 students, one full-time at 300 students, two full-time at 1,000 students; librarians in high schools, one half-time to 299 students, one full- time at 300 students, two full- time at 1,000 students;

Staffing for Clerical Positions

Clerical personnel in elementary schools, part-time to 299 students, one full-time at 300 students; clerical personnel in middle schools, one full-time and one additional fulltime for each 600 students beyond 200 students and one full- time for the library at 750 students; clerical personnel in high schools, one full-time and one additional full-time for each 600 students beyond 200 students and one full-time for the library at 750 students.

Blogging????? Or Weblogs??????

What is a weblog or blog? According to the Technorati web site, "A weblog, or blog, is a personal journal on the web. Weblogs express as many different subjects and opinions as there are people writing them.

Some blogs are highly influential and have enormous readership while others are primarily intended for a close circle of family and friends."

A recent article on blogging has raised some issues concerning the need to emphasize to students that protecting identity and privacy on the Internet is crucial. Many students are operating under the misconception that the blogs are private and meant only for their 'friends' but many blogs are open for anyone to read. These articles help address the issue.

Virtual Wisdom -- Have You Blogged Lately? Many Teenagers Have a Blog or Know Someone Who

Does!
http://www.big6.com/showenewsarticle.php?id=461

Library Specific Blogs List of library related Weblogs from LibDex.
Blog Without a Library discusses how various libraries are using blogs.
Free Range Librarian is written by Karen G. Schneider who is the director of Librarian's Index to the Internet.
Technobiblio is written by librarians and others who work for or used to work for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
The Hip Librarians Book Blog is written by a group of eight librarians who share ideas of books to read for young people.
Eduwonk gives access to current K-12 education news articles from the 21st Century Schools Project.
The Distant Librarian shares ideas, articles and thoughts of how librarians can serve students who take virtual classes in college. Written by the Distance Education Librarian at the University of Calgary.

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[Information Literacy Web Log](#) is written by professors in the Department of Information Studies, Sheffield University, UK.

How is blogging addressed within the schools acceptable use policy? Do you have students blogging? Are you a blogger? Please share your experiences.

Gale Workshops

Several regional training opportunities are being offered both by the Department of Education and the Library of Virginia.

Please take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about these exciting resources. If you do not currently use the databases, then please attend one of these to see what your students are missing.

Reservations for the Train the Trainer sessions are now being accepted.

Sites and Dates

**Hanover
April 4
Atlee High School**
9:00 - 11:30 session for grades K-8
1:00 – 3:30 session for grades 9-12

**Colonial Beach
April 21
Colonial Beach High School**
9:00 - 11:30 session for grades K-8
1:00 – 3:30 session for grades 9-12

**Carroll County
May 20
Carroll County Intermediate School
Room 120120**
9:00 - 11:30 session for grades K-8
1:00 – 3:30 session for grades 9-12

Please send your registration information to Charlie.Makela@doe.virginia.gov
Be sure to include your name, email address, school name and division
Please be sure to indicate which location and time you wish to attend.

For information about the workshops sponsored by the Library of Virginia please read the information at http://www.vpl.lib.va.us/databases/gale/trainfortrainers.htm

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